

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 216907 TOSEC 250033

42

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S-DPASSAGE

S/S - MR. BRIDGES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 216907 TOSEC 250033

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM HARTMAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TU

SUBJECT: NEW TURKISH ACTION IN THE AEGEAN

THE FOLLOWING IS TO ALERT YOU TO A POTENTIALLY SERIOUS
NEW PROBLEM IN THE AEGEAN. THE TURKS HAVE ISSUED TODAY
A SERIES OF COORDINATES FOR THE NEXT SAILING OF THE
SEISMIC WHICH APPEAR TO TAKE IT INTO GREEK TERRITORIAL
WATERS AND CERTAINLY WELL BEYOND THE MEDIAN LINE IN THE
AEGEAN. IN PAST INSTANCES THEY HAVE USUALLY SAILED WHERE
THEY HAVE INDICATED THEY MIGHT SAIL. BILL MACOMBER IS
NOW CHECKING THESE COORDINATES TO BE SURE THEY ARE
CORRECT. IF THEY ARE WE CAN EXPECT A MAJOR REACTION
FROM THE GREEKS. I FIND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO UNDERSTAND WHY
THE TURKS WOULD CHOOSE SUCH A PROVOCATIVE ACTION SINCE
THEY WON THEIR POINT IN NEW YORK AND COULD HAVE BY NOW
INITIATED BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS. WE WILL GIVE YOU A
FURTHER REPORT LATER TODAY. WE HAVE JUST HEARD THAT THE
GREEK AMBASSADOR HAS ASKED TO COME IN TO SEE HABIB AND
WILL SEE HIM AT FOUR O'CLOCK. ROBINSON

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